AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIG. 3A, FIG. 3B, FIG. 3D and FIG. 4A. These sheets, which include FIG. 3A, FIG. 3B, FIG. 3D and FIG. 4A, replace the original sheets including FIG. 3A, FIG. 3B, FIG. 3D and FIG. 4A.

Attachment: Four Replacement Sheets of revised Formal Drawings.

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on July 29, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicant has editorially amended the specification, amended claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 14, 21-23, 26, 27, 34, 38 and 40, and canceled claims 2, 25 and 37. Claims 1, 21 and 34 are the independent claims, and claims 1, 3-24, 26-36 and 38-43 remain pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

In the specification, a paragraph has been amended to correct minor editorial problems. Specifically, the numeral of the rear roller shaft has been modified to 324b.

Regarding the drawings, in amended FIG. 3A, the previously omitted element numerals 232 and 242 have been added. In amended FIG. 3B, the wheel 254 is shown detached from the tread belt 236 when the supporting device is in the first state. In amended FIG. 3D, the wheel 254 is shown abutting the tread belt 236 so as to drive the tread belt 236 by friction therebetween when the supporting device is in the second state. In amended FIG. 4A, the "running load sensor" has been modified to "cycling speed sensor" in compliance with the detailed description of the present application. The amended FIG. 3B and FIG. 3D are originally shown in the drawings of the priority application (Taiwan patent application No. 091214747), and are described in the original present application.

Claims 1, 21 and 34 have been amended to more clearly identify novel and non-obvious features of the claimed invention. Specifically, the claims 1, 21 and 34 have been amended to recite that the wheel is detached from the tread belt when the supporting device is in the first state, and the wheel abuts the tread belt and drives the tread belt by friction therebetween when the supporting device is in the second state.

Support for these amendments can be found in the original specification. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schonenberger (U.S. Patent No. 4,026,545). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections made by the Examiner for the reasons discussed below.

Amended claim 1 recites that the wheel abuts the tread belt and drives the tread belt by friction therebetween when the supporting device is in the second state. The wheel 20, in Schonenberger, does not abut the slat 9 (tread belt), nor does the wheel drive the slat 9 (tread belt) by friction therebetween when the supporting device is in the second state.

As Schonenberger does not disclose, teach or suggest all of the features recited in claim 1 of the present application, it is Applicant's belief that this claim is allowable over Schonenberger. Insofar as claims 3-20 depend from claim 1, it is Applicant's belief that these claims are also allowable.

35 USC § 103

Claim 3 has been rejected as being obvious over *Schonenberger* in view of *Carmein* (854). Claims 7-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schonenberger and Carmein (854) and further in view of Carmein (256). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections made by the Examiner for the reasons discussed below.

Under MPEP 2143, to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

As noted above, Schonenberger does not teach that the wheel abuts the tread belt and drives the tread belt by friction therebetween when the supporting device is in the second state, as recited in claims 1, 21 and 34 of the present application.

Carmein (854) teaches an omni-directional treadmill having a track assembly that allows a user to walk or run in any arbitrary direction. Carmein (256) teaches a virtual reality system with an enhanced sensory apparatus. There is no disclosure or suggestion of the wheel abutting the tread belt and driving the tread belt by friction therebetween when the supporting device is in the second state, as recited in Applicant's independent claims. Thus, even when Schonenberger is combined with Carmein (854) and Carmein (256), the citations fail to teach all of the limitations of claims 1, 21 and 34.

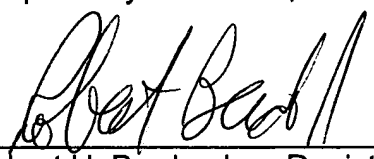
As neither of Schonenberger, Carmein (854) and Carmein (256), when taken alone or in combination, teach all of the features recited in claims 1, 21 and 34 of the present application, it is Applicant's belief that these claims are allowable over the cited references. Insofar as claim 3 depends from claim 1, claims 22-24 and 26-33 depend from claim 21, and claims 35, 36 and 38-43 depend from claim 34, it is Applicant's belief that these claims are also allowable.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



October 26, 2005
Date

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